

A Piano-Player for the
Most Popular School
Teacher in Richmond

THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1854

VOTES TO REPEAL BICHANAN COUNTY LAND TITLE ACT

Senate Passes Remedial
Bill by Vote of
29 to 5.

ROYALL SAYS LAW HELPS BIG FRAUD

Remarkable Speech by Senator
Buchanan Recites Story of
Land Dispute More Than 100
Years Old, Originating With
Sale in Richmond of 200,000-
Acre Grant for \$20—Law Pass-
ed in 1912 Said to Becloud
Title of Property, Held by
More Than 1,000 Landowners.
Cannon Opposes Passage of
Bill.

After a prolonged debate of more
than three hours the Senate immedi-
ately before taking recess yesterday
afternoon, passed by a vote of 29 to 5
the bill introduced by Senators Buch-
anan and Royall repealing an act pass-
ed by the Legislature of 1912, which
prescribed the effect as evidence to be
given to deeds recorded prior to the
year 1885.

The debate brought out an argument
of unusual strength by Senator Buch-
anan, and a charge by Senator Royall
that the law sought to be repealed had
had the effect of furthering the big-
gest land fraud in the history of the
State. The repeal of the law was
opposed in strong speeches by Senator
Cannon, of Richmond, and Senator
Bowers, of Culpeper.

According to the friends of the measure,
it will, if passed by the Senate, dis-
pate a cloud which has been hanging
over the title to the property of 1,000
citizens in Buchanan County, who hold
grants made by the Commonwealth
and which have been made the basis
of a large part of the land titles
deeded through possession and pay-
ment of taxes for periods extending as far
back as thirty years.

The repeal of the Buchanan County
land title act, as brought out in the
speech of Senator Buchanan, was in
itself a remarkable story of the early
days of the nation, when the State
granted to patriots with lavish
grants of land.

In the year 1785 the Commonwealth
of Virginia made a grant of 200,000
acres, in what is now Buchanan County,
to Richard Smith and Harry Banks,
who, evidenced by their appreciation of
the princely gift by permitting it to
be returned delinquent year after year.
In 1820 William D. Taylor, a Federal
collector, sold the land at auction in
Richmond under an act of Congress of
1812, known as the direct tax law, de-
signed to raise revenue for the debt
of the War of 1812.

At the auction sale the entire grant
of 200,000 acres was knocked down to
William D. Taylor, for a sum of some-
thing like \$20. The grant then passed
through successive alienations until it
reached one Frederick Pearson, in 1876.
Pearson instituted about forty disem-
power suits in the Federal district
court at Abingdon, in which orders of
dismissal were secured upon.

Bought for \$50,000.
From 1876 until 1902, according to
Senator Buchanan, the land was re-
turned delinquent in the name of Pear-
son. In 1902 C. W. Teabault, of Norfolk,
filed application before the clerk
of the Circuit Court of Buchanan
County under the so-called "land-
grabbers' act" and secured a matter
of record in conveying the tract to the
Buchanan Company, a West Virginia
corporation, with headquarters in Bos-
ton, for the sum of \$50,000. The tract
was transferred to the Buchanan Com-
pany, making the price about 40 cents
an acre.

Upon taking over the tract, the
Buchanan Company sought through
suits in the State and Federal courts
to establish its title to the property,
but was in every instance defeated.
There was a lull in the litigation until
the passage of the act of 1912.
Within a few days after the 1912
act became law, the Buchanan Com-
pany brought suit in the Circuit Court
of Buchanan County against the un-
known heirs of Smith and Banks.
The judge of that court being dis-
qualified, the case was transferred to
Judge Hutton, of Washington County,
who dismissed the bill on demurrer.
He was sustained by the State Supreme
Court of Appeals in an opinion handed
down on January 15 last.

Disappeared. Hutton's decision was
the effect of the law passed by the
last Legislature is to make a deed regu-
larly recorded before 1885 prima facie
evidence that all provisions and re-
quirements of the law were complied
with in the making of such deed. In
the previous suits of the Buchanan
Company the chief failing was found to
be the company's alleged inability
to produce documentary or satisfactory
proof that the legal preliminaries to
the original sale by the Federal
collector in 1820 were fully carried
out.

The act of 1912, according to those
who argued for its repeal, is calcu-
lated to insure to the benefit of the
Buchanan Company the disposal of the
claims of the 737 defendants who were
cited in a recent suit instituted by the
company. Its repeal was urged in the
interest of fairness, the contention be-
ing made that the law would leave
the litigants the same rights they
enjoyed before it was passed.

The argument turned largely upon
the legal aspect of the rival claims and
upon the question of equity. Senator
Royall called upon the Senate, in a
speech which lasted more than an hour,
and which was characterized by a clear
exposition of the law and a high degree
of eloquence, to undo a wrong that the
session had committed against
thousands of citizens in his district.
The present law, he said, prejudiced
their cause in favor of a foreign cor-
poration and placed a cloud on the
title of more than 1,000 homes in Buch-
anan County.

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

WHOLE NUMBER, 19,647.

RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1914.

LEAVES ON TRIP FOR FLORIDA

Rockefeller Will Go to Daytona Until
Winter Weather Breaks Up.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
New York, March 6.—John D. Rocke-
feller left the Pennsylvania Station to-
day at 12:33 P. M. for Daytona, Fla.,
where he will stay until bleak win-
ter weather in New York breaks up.
He was found by the newspaper men
standing in an obscure corner of the
general waiting-room of the big sta-
tion.

"May we have just a second of your
time, Mr. Rockefeller?" he was asked.
He turned about with a pleasant
smile.
"I have no time," he rejoined. Then
his eyes fell upon a photographer a few
feet away, who was kneeling at his
feet and pointing his camera at him.
He laughed softly and pointed his finger
at the photographer.

"I have seen him before," he re-
marked as he turned away.
A second later a man came
hurriedly through the waiting-room.
Mr. Rockefeller stepped quickly over
to him, put his arm about his shoulder
and kissed his cheek. It was John
D. Rockefeller, Jr. He accompanied
his father to the train, and sat chat-
ting with him until the conductor had
shouted "all aboard." The train had al-
ready commenced to move before he
leaped to the platform again.

GLASS CONFERS WITH M'ADOO

Discusses Appointment of Collectors of
Internal Revenue.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, March 6.—Directly on
the heels of his talk with President
Wilson yesterday, during which he
went over the whole situation regard-
ing Virginia patronage, Congressman
Glass today called on Secretary
McAdoo, of the Treasury, and dis-
cussed at length the matter of appoint-
ing collectors of internal revenue in
the State. McAdoo and Glass are
close friends, and although it was
not given out what had been deter-
mined upon, it is generally believed
here that Glass's advice will be fol-
lowed to a great extent, which assures
the appointment of John M. Har-
rington as collector for the Western
District.

After the conference with Secretary
McAdoo, Mr. Glass hurried to his
office and then departed for Lynch-
burg. He declared he felt confident
that patronage would be distributed
under the Treasury Department was
concerned, would be distributed
with a certain regard to the public
good, and that he expected the nomi-
nations would be made at a reasonably early
date.

COAL STEAMER IN DISTRESS

Revenue Cutter Rushing to Assistance
of the Charleston Tower, Jr.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Philadelphia, March 6.—The coal-
steamer, Charleston, of the Chesapeake
Steamship Company, is in distress
off the coast of Virginia. The vessel
is bound from Norfolk to Boston with
a heavy cargo of coal. It is in distress
because of a heavy sea and is being
driven ashore. The revenue cutter
Hudson is rushing to its aid.

A hole in her bow was plainly visible
from Bay Head, while her wireless ap-
paratus was laboring at the pumps. The
crew of the steamer has managed to
keep off the beach, and is likely to
strike any minute. She carries a crew
of thirty men, and is carrying a cargo
of coal. The revenue cutter Hudson
is rushing to her aid.

IN RACE FOR SENATE

Underwood Worker Announces Can-
didacy to Succeed Johnston.
Montgomery, Ala., March 6.—Ray
Underwood, a prominent attorney and
Democrat, has announced his can-
didacy for the Senate to succeed
Senator Johnston, who expires term
in 1915. Underwood has qualified
also, making three entries in this
contest. Senator Johnston was de-
feeted by Senator Bankhead be-
fore, having been first to enter the race.
Underwood is a native of Alabama, and
has been in the State for many years.
He is a member of the Alabama Bar,
and has been active in the politics of
the State.

WANTS CORRECT BALANCE

West Virginia Not Trying to Evade
Liability for Virginia Debt.
Charleston, W. Va., March 6.—"West
Virginia is not trying to evade any part
of its liability for the Virginia debt,"
declared Governor Henry D. Hatfield,
in his return here to-day from the
joint meeting of the two legislatures.
He said that the West Virginians
were not trying to evade their share
of the debt, but were trying to get a
correct balance.

H. M. CLABAUGH STRICKEN

Chief Justice Supreme Court of District
of Columbia Dies at His Home.
Washington, March 6.—H. M. Clabaugh,
chief justice of the Supreme Court of
the District of Columbia, died at his
home in Washington, D. C., to-day.
He was 72 years of age. He had been
ill for some time.

WILSON FAMILY ENTERTAINED

Tendered Dinner by Members of Cab-
inet and their wives.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, March 6.—Members of
the Cabinet and their wives entertained
President Wilson and his family to-
night at dinner at the White House.
The dinner was given by the mem-
bers of the Cabinet, and was a most
pleasant occasion.

CAMEL LOSES HIS RECORD

Maryland Turkey Does Without Food
and Water for Forty Days.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, March 6.—By doing
without food and water for forty-one
days, a Maryland turkey has smashed
the record that the camel held for
several years. The turkey was owned
by a farmer of Travilah, Md., and
was named "Camel." It was found
dead in a field to-day.

GOVERNOR ON NAME THREE MEMBERS OF TAX COMMISSION

Gregory Amendment
Wins Over Report of
Finance Committee.

TEN MEMBERS TO
PREPARE NEW LAW

Must Report Alternate Bills,
Giving Special Session Choice
Between Several Methods of
Taxation—Legislature to
Be Called Again
Next January.

New tax laws for Virginia are to be
drafted by a committee of ten mem-
bers, four from the House of Delegates,
to be appointed by the Speaker; three
from the Senate to be named by the
president of that body, and three ap-
pointed at large by the Governor. If
the action taken by the House of De-
legates last night meets the approval of
the Senate, the proposition is sub-
stantially in the form approved by Gov-
ernor Stuart and a number of Senators.

After three sessions of prolonged
debate the House last night adopted a
substitute of the Gregory amendment.
The new committee on Finance, of the
House, for the reorganization of the
committee on Finance, that there be
a legislative committee of fifteen,
ten from the House and five from the
Senate. The final vote did not come
until several amendments had been
rejected, and the change of a
number of members to the Gregory
amendment, after rejecting several
other amendments.

The House bill to provide for the ap-
pointment of a committee of ten mem-
bers to draft a new tax law, and to re-
port on or before the first of January
all questions relating to the assess-
ment and collection of taxes, was
passed by a vote of 10 to 5. The bill
was introduced by the House of De-
legates, and was passed by a vote of
10 to 5. The bill was introduced by
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by a vote of 10 to 5.

INJURES AMERICAN LABOR

Turning to the Republican side of
the chamber, Senator Simmons de-
clared that the only importation that
was injuring American labor was the
importation of foreign goods. He de-
clared that the only way to protect
American labor was to protect the
American market. He declared that
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PARTISAN DEBATE ON FIRST YEAR OF DEMOCRATIC RULE

Simmons Staunchly De-
fends Party's Legis-
lative Career.

SENATOR WORKS
LEADS IN ATTACK

North Carolinian Resents Re-
mark That Congress Is De-
prived of Its Function by Ex-
ecutive Dictation and Cau-
sus Rule—Mexican Policy
Is Severely Criticized.

Washington, March 6.—An old-fash-
ioned partisan debate on one year of
Democratic rule to-day almost com-
pletely obliterated consideration of
the woman suffrage constitutional
amendment in the Senate. Senator
Works hurled a broadside of criticism
at the administration's record, while
Senator Simmons, staunchly defended
his party's legislative career. He drew
from Senator Smoot a counter attack
on his tariff remarks, the Utah Sen-
ator basing his statements largely on
Treasury statistics.

The arraignment of Democratic rule
by Senator Works, Republican, of Cal-
ifornia, culminated in an attack on its
Mexican policy as hopeless. Senator
Simmons, however, stoutly defended
his party's legislative career. He drew
from Senator Smoot a counter attack
on his tariff remarks, the Utah Sen-
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Treasury statistics.

OF HEART FAILURE

George Washington Vanderbilt Dies
at His Home in Asheville, N. C.

Washington, March 6.—George W.
Vanderbilt, fifty-two, multimillionaire
philanthropist and sportsman of in-
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Developed Biltmore Estate in North Carolina



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THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1854

HOUSE RECEIVES BILL TO REPEAL TOLL EXEMPTION

Committee Votes 13 to 3
to Make Favorable
Report.

MATTER WILL BE PRESSED AT ONCE

Chairman of Committee Author-
ized to Urge Special Rule to
Hasten Measure—Course for
Senate to Pursue Will
Be Determined
Next Week.

Majority for Repeal

Washington, March 6.—Members
of the House and Senate, who will
aid the toll exemption bill, an-
nounced to-night they had in-
tended to vote for a bill to repeal
the toll exemption law, and that a
majority of the House was ready
to vote for a bill to repeal the law.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, March 6.—Initial steps
to repeal the toll exemption law of
the Panama Canal act, as requested
by President Wilson, were taken in
Congress to-day, when the House Com-
mittee on Interstate Commerce re-
ported favorably a bill to repeal the
provision. In the Senate the Com-
mittee on Intercoastal Canals decided to meet
next week to consider the appeal of
the President for a reversal of policy
in the Panama Canal, which involves the
Hay-Pauncefote treaty and the
opinion of the President, the general
foreign relations policy of the admin-
istration.

While the House is debating the is-
sue, the Senate committee will
consider what course to pursue,
whether to recommend a flat repeal
bill or to urge the compromise bill
offered by Senator Chilton, of West
Virginia, a member of the committee,
which would authorize the Senate
to regulate tolls and assess charges at
its discretion, wherever exemption is
provided in the canal act.

I believe that more Senators would
vote for my amendment than will
support a flat repeal measure," said
Senator Chilton to-night. "Though the
amendment would accomplish repeal
of toll exemption indirectly, it would
not repeal the Democratic platform
which would authorize the Senate
to regulate tolls and assess charges at
its discretion, wherever exemption is
provided in the canal act."

QUICK RESPONSE IN HOUSE

In the House there was quick re-
sponse to the President's address, the
committee voting 13 to 3 to favorably
report the Sims repeal bill. Absent
members who were recorded made the
vote 17 to 4.

Chairman Adamson had ready a
draft of the President's address, the
committee voting 13 to 3 to favorably
report the Sims repeal bill. Absent
members who were recorded made the
vote 17 to 4.

Representative Knowland, of Cal-
ifornia, who led the opposition in the
committee, was given three days to file
a minority report, and Chairman
Adamson was authorized to urge the
repeal of the toll exemption law.

Representative Adamson will take
charge of the situation in the House,
as Majority Leader Underwood for the
first time during the administration
finds himself on the antiadministration
side. Underwood has announced his in-
tention of not only voting against the
bill, but also of making a speech against
it. Despite this, however, the leaders
of the repeal forces declared to-day
they were assured of a substantial ma-
jority to carry out the President's will,
in its report to-day the committee,
which provided for uniform tolls in the
canal act as originally reported, re-
iterated its position.

POSITION IS REITERATED

"We deem it proper now," said the
report, "to consider the international
situation and our obligations and
policy in relation thereto. True, there
has been a change in the President's
policy, but we are advised the opposi-
tion to the principal treaty under
which the canal was constructed fails
to approve our action in providing for
the exaction of tolls to be collected
in construction of the treaty. Other
maritime nations hold the same dis-
senting opinion, and in the whole fam-
ily of nations we stand alone in our
contentions. In such a situation it is
not always necessary or wise to urge
our contention, even though convinced
of our abstract right. We are not dis-
turbed by the taunt made, for a pur-
pose, that repeal would be truckling
and yielding to foreign demands. A
similar taunt could be raised against
any man or nation honorable enough
to promote friendly relations by ac-
cording respectful consideration to
views of the opposite party."

After a discussion of the provisions
of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, and a
declaration that the coastwise trade
of the United States does not need the
assistance of free tolls, the committee
report said:

"The foreign governments objecting
to our construction of the treaty can
find a hundred points in the world's
commerce to retaliate and discriminate,
where we may blunder into using one.
Our resources, genius and geographical